The balance will be met through imports for which necessary arrangements have been made.

Bio-fertilisers being only supplementary source, will not reduce the requirements of different types of fertilisers.

### Diversion of land from sugarcane cultivation

*173. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sugarcane cultivators have been diverting from sugarcane to. other crops because the support price for sugarcane has been unremunerative; and

(b) if so, what was the area under sugarcane cultivation and the sugarcane, production during the Inst three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH); (a) The long-term trend (1967-68 to 1984-85) in the area under sugarcane cultivation indicates a steady growth rate of 1.81 per cent per annum. Area under sugarcane crop has declined marginally by 0.3 million ha. and 0.1 million ha. during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 respectively which is not an unusual phenomenon. This does not also mean any diversion of area under sugarcane *to other* crops whatsoever. Government fixes the statutory minimum price for sugarcane taking into consideration, among other things, the cost of cultivation plus a reasonable margin of profit for the sugarcane growers. In the circumstances, the marginal decline observed during the recent years cannot be attributed to unremunera-tiveness of the price received by the sugarcane farmers.

(b) The area and production of sugarcane ci ;r:ng the last three years are as under:—

| Year | | | Area (Million ha.) | Production (Million tonnes in cane) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1982-83 | . | . | 3·4 | 189·5 |
| 1983-84 | . | . | 3·1 | 174·1 |
| 1984-85 | . | . | 3·0 | 173·6 |

### Drought situation in Andhra Pradesh

•174. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh was adversely affected by drought recently;

(b) if so. what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the amount of central aid given to tackle drought in that State; and

(d) whether Government propose *to* evolve permanent measures to check the occurrence of drought in the State, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) During the South West monsoon (June—September) 1985, rains in certain parts of Andhra Pradesh were deficient and uneven. This resulted in drought situation in these parts of the State.

(b) According to the Memorandum submitted by the State Government on 5th October 1985. 34.62 lakh persons, 18.70 lakh hectares of cropped area and 63.03 lakh cattle population covering 19 districts of the State were ted.

(c) During 1985-86, Rs. 30.80 crores was sanctioned as Central assistance to Andhra Pradesh in the month of June. The sanction for Central assistance for the current drought is likely to be issued shortly.

(d) A number of long-term measures have been taken by the Government of India for reducing the incidence and intensity of drought conditions. These measures include increasing the area under irrigation, drought prone area programme, Soil & Water Conservation Programme, Dryland Farming, Crop Insurance, Afforestation, Development of improved and drought resistant varieties of seeds, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, Drinking; Water Programmes, Small & Marginal Farmers Assistance Programme etc.

## Earnings from advertisements by AIR and Doordarshan

*175. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state what is the amount collected by the All India Radio and Doordarshan from advertisements during the financial year 1984-85 and from April, 1985 to October, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): During 1984-85 the gross collections of AIR and Doordarshan from commercials were respectively Rs. [6.33 crores and Rs. 31.43 crores. The corresponding earnings during April to October 1985. were respectively, Rs. 9.85 crores and Rs. 30.35 crores.

## Export of green vegetables from Delhi to Gulf countries

*176. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether green vegetables are exported from Delhi to Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the quantity and value thereof during the last three months;

(c) whether this is one of the reasons for the rise in prices of vegetables in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to make the vegetables available to consumers in Delhi at reasonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is estimated that around 90 tons valued at Rs. 6 lakhs have, been I exported during the last three months from Delhi.

(c) The prices of vegetables in Delhi during 1985 have not been rising continuously. These have displayed the normal fluctuations in response to seasons! factor.; as well as short-term shifts in supply and demand brought about by local phenomenon. The export 1 of a small quantity of vegetables from i Delhi is not likey to have any significant effect on the prices of vegetables.

(d) With a view to reducing the seasonal upsurge in the prices of vegetables, which causes hardship to consumers, especially of the weaker and vulnerable sections of the population. Government have adpoted both short and long-term measures. The short-term measures include the selling of fruits -and vegetables by Super Bazar. Delhi, through its mobile vans, and the opening of retail vegetable shops by the National Dairy Development Board. The National Agricultural Co-operaive Marketing Federation also makes available to the Super Bazar and the Delhi Civil Supplies Corporation onions and potatoes at the wholesale level at prices which are significantly lower than the market prices. The long-term measures include the launching of a Centrally sponsored scheme in the Seventh Plan for in- 1 creasing vegetable production in the periphery of Delhi along with other I big cities.